RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER
MAY 15 2009

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 26-30 without prejudice or disclaimer and amend the claims as follows:

1. (Previously Presented) A method for scale manufacturing a series of shoe shapes distributed on a series of footwear sizes starting from a base shoe shape provided in a basic footwear size, comprising:

gathering spatial coordinates (x_B, y_B, z_B) of points on the base shoe shape of basic size using gauges associated with a computer means on which CAD programs are run, or obtaining said spatial coordinates (x_B, y_B, z_B) from a storage unit;

obtaining, from the spatial coordinates (x_B, y_B, z_B) of points on the base shoe shape of basic size, spatial coordinates (x_n, y_n, z_n) of points on at least another shoe shape in the series, by using said computer means provided with predetermined calculation formulae;

wherein said computer means equipped with CAD programs is used for defining a profile, a volume, or spatial coordinates of footwear component parts associated with said another shoe shape in the series; and

feeding a numerically-controlled (NC) tool machine with said spatial coordinates (x_n, y_n, z_n) of points on said at least another shoe shape in the series for the manufacture thereof;

wherein said calculation formulae link the spatial coordinates (x_n, y_n, z_n) of points on said at least another shoe shape in the series to the spatial coordinates (x_B, y_B, z_B) of points on the base shoe shape by a relation of proportionality of predetermined coefficients (c_x, c_y, c_z) that are functions of an integer (n) denoting the positive or negative distance of a given size in a range with respect to the basic size, according to the following formulae:

$Cx = 1 + f(n)$

$Cy = 1 + f(n) - f(n*|n|)$

$Cz = 1 + f(n) - f(n \bullet |n|)$

where, $|n|$ is the absolute value of n.

2. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 1, wherein said functions of said integer (n) are multiplication functions by predetermined numerical parameters (a, b, c, d, e), as per the following relations:

$Cx = 1 + n \bullet a$

$Cy = 1 + n \bullet b - n \bullet |n| \bullet c$

$Cz = 1 + n \bullet d - n \bullet |n| \bullet e$

3. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 2, wherein the parameter (a) of constant length variation along the X axis varies within the range of $(3.5 \div 1.5) \bullet 10^{-2}$.

4. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 2, wherein the parameter (b) of first-degree width variation along the Y axis varies within the range of $(3.5 \div 2.0) \bullet 10^{-2}$.

5. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 2, wherein the parameter (d) of first-degree thickness variation along the Z axis varies within the range of $(3.0 \div 1.0) \bullet 10^{-2}$.

6. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 2, wherein the parameter (c) of second-degree width variation along the Y axis varies within the range of $(4.0 \div 7.0) \bullet 10^{-4}$.

7. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 2, wherein the parameter (e) of second-degree thickness variation along the Z axis varies within the range of $(4.0 \div 7.0) \bullet 10^{-4}$.

8. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 2, wherein the values of said parameters (a, b, c, d, e) are increased to develop shoe shapes for child sizes from those for developing lady/gentleman shoe shapes.

9. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 2, wherein said second-degree variation parameters (c, e) along the Z axis may have the same value.

10. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 1, wherein said range of footwear sizes spreads over constant-rate length variations (X axis), and over width (Y axis) and thickness (Z axis) variations that are related to said length variation.

11. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 10, wherein said constant rate is equal to 0.5 cm.

12. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 10, wherein a size in said range of footwear sizes describes the foot plantar surface as developed in the distal direction, i.e. in the length direction or X axis.

13. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 1, wherein the footwear sizes are spread over length variations that are based on the decimal metric system.

14. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 1, wherein a comfort rating mark, obtained from said computer means as a sum, that is weighed and standardized in respect of

the measurement units, of a group of numerical values characterizing a given shoe shape, is associated with each shoe shape in the series.

15. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 14, wherein said numerical values include at least the volume available for the foot, the "fit", and the softness of the materials out of which the shoe is made.

16. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 15, wherein the fit is the smallest section through which the tarsus and the metatarsus must be passed in order to put on the shoe, as calculated in a parallel plane to a diagonal line (D) from the end (H) of the contour line on the top pad to the foremost point (K) of the top flat of the shoe shape.

17. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 1, wherein said footwear component parts comprise at least the insole, the sole, the quarter, and the heel.

18. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 1, wherein the data about the spatial coordinates (x_n, y_n, z_n) of points of all the sizes in the range, as well as about said component parts associated with each shoe shape, is contained in a storage unit associated with said computer means.

19. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 18, wherein said storage unit contains a database.

20. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 18, wherein a part of the data is contained in an integrated circuit placed in the shoe shape.

21. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 1, wherein said component parts are realized by feeding tool machines with data about the profile, the volume, or the spatial coordinates of said footwear component parts.

22. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 1, wherein said tool machine incorporates and is driven by an on-board computer means corresponding to said computer means.

23. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 16, wherein said storage unit comprises a read/write memory or a read-only memory.

24. (Cancelled)

25. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 1, further comprising:

obtaining from said spatial co-ordinates (x_B, y_B, z_B) of the base shoe shape the spatial co-ordinates (x_n, y_n, z_n) of points of some shoe components corresponding to said at least another shoe shape in the range;

feeding a numerically-controlled (NC) tool machine with the spatial co-ordinates of said shoe components, for manufacturing respective moulds of said components; and

molding the respective components.

26. -30 (Cancelled)